

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 2497 - HB 2462**

March 12, 2014

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates a Test Review Board (TRB) that shall review tests annually and determine whether the tests are appropriate measures of learning. The TRB will be comprised of five members. Two members shall be appointed by the Governor. The Speaker of the House and the Speaker of the Senate shall each appoint one member. The State Board of Education shall appoint the remaining member. The term for all initial members shall begin on July 1, 2014. Requires the TRB to annually review all achievement tests and end-of-course examinations to determine whether such tests are properly aligned with the state's curriculum and whether the tests are objective measures of student learning. Prohibits TRB members from receiving compensation for their service. Authorizes members to receive travel reimbursement. Authorizes the TRB to employ staff as needed and attaches the TRB to the Department of Education for administrative purposes. TRB meetings shall not be subject to state open meetings statutes. Requires the TRB to produce an annual report on each test and file this report with the Commissioner of Education.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$63,100**

**Assumptions:**

- The TRB will require a minimum of one employee. Based on information provided by the DOE, salary and benefits for this employee are estimated to be \$62,567 (\$51,000 salary + \$11,567 benefits).
- Whether TRB members will be required to drive a long distance to attend TRB meetings; whether such members will apply for travel reimbursement; and whether TRB meetings will take place through conference call or other electronic means is unknown.
- It is estimated that the state will reimburse a minimum of two members for mileage at an average cost of \$140 per meeting per member for at least two meetings; a total recurring increase in state expenditures of \$560 (140 x 2 meetings x 2 members).
- The total recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$63,127 (\$62,567 + \$560).
- No fiscal impact on local expenditures.

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**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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